

10/593150

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 09812.0134

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. National Stage Application
for PCT/JP2005/004839 for:

Steffen GUTMANN et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: September 18, 2006

For: **Method and Apparatus for
Detecting Plane, and Robot
Apparatus Having Apparatus
for Detecting Plane (As
Amended)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

)
)
)
) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
)
) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
)
) Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned
)
)

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and cited in the international search report. Copies of the listed patent and non-patent documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and are in a non-English language:

1. Xiaoyi JIANG et al, "Fast Segmentation of Range Images Into Planar Regions by Scan Line Grouping", Machine Vision and Applications, 1994, Vo. 7, No. 2, pages 115 to 122. The relevance of this document is discussed at page 3 of the specification of the present application.

2. JP 07-93541

3 JP 2001-62566

An English-language abstract of documents 2 and 3 is enclosed.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or the translation of the non-English documents, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the Japanese Patent Office in the PCT international application, from which this national phase U.S. application is derived, citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take


appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.



By: 
David W. Hill
Reg. No. 28,220

Dated: September 18, 2006

Enclosures
DWH/FPD/alp

ERNEST F. CHAPMAN
Reg. No. 25,961

IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	September 18, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Steffen GUTMANN et al.
				Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	09812.0134

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-5,546,476	08-13-1996	Mitaka et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 07-93541	04-07-1995	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC WORKS, LTD.		Abstract
		JP 2001-62566	03-13-2001	KOBE STEEL, LTD.		Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		Xiaoyi JIANG et al., "Fast Segmentation of Range Images Into Planar Regions by Scan Line Grouping:", Machine Vision and Applications, 1994, Vol. 7, No. 2, pages 115 to 122	Yes

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.